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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9531

INFO RWANDA COLLECTIVE

JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY

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GENEVA FOR RMA

ROME ALSO FOR FODAG

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NAIROBI FOR DART AND REFCOORD

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AID/BHR/FFP, AID/PPC

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREF, PREL, PHUM, EAID, MOPS, RW, FR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 25 AUG 2015
 DATE/CASE ID: 04 NOV 2011 201005065

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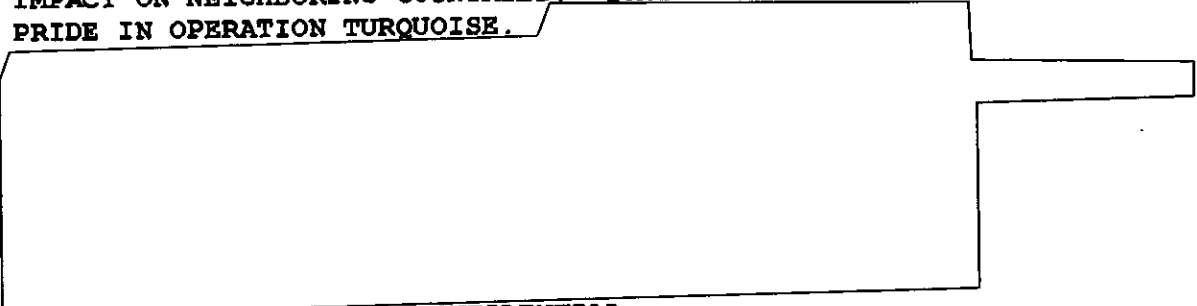
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SUBJECT: A/S MOOSE DISCUSSION OF RWANDA AND OTHER
- REGIONAL ISSUES WITH QUAI OFFICIALS

REF: PARIS 21685

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: IN AN AUGUST 23 MEETING AT THE QUAI, A/S FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS GEORGE MOOSE DISCUSSED THE POLITICAL AND HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN RWANDA AND ITS IMPACT ON NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. QUAI OFFICIALS TOOK PRIDE IN OPERATION TURQUOISE.

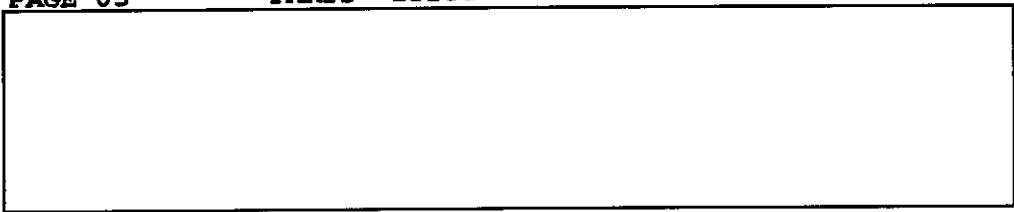


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3. IN A TWO-HOUR MEETING AUGUST 23, A/S FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS GEORGE MOOSE DISCUSSED RWANDA AND REGIONAL ISSUES WITH QUAI DIRECTOR FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS DE LA SABLIERE. DE LA SABLIERE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY QUAI OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA CATHERINE BOIVINEAU; DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS YANNICK GERARD; UN DESK OFFICER LAURENCE RIST; AND COUNSELOR MARC PLUM OF THE HUMANITARIAN ACTION MINISTRY.

U.S. ASSESSMENT

4. A/S MOOSE CONVEYED U.S. CONCERNS ABOUT THE RWANDA REGION, A SITUATION HE NOTED HAS BECOME MORE DIFFICULT IN THE TWO WEEKS SINCE MOOSE LAST MET WITH THE FRENCH (REF). RWANDA CONTINUES TO FACE SEVERE DIFFICULTIES;

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INCLUDING THE ABSENCE OF DISCIPLINE WITHIN THE GOR'S
MILITARY RANKS WHICH HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED FROM THEIR
APRIL LEVEL OF 15,000. THE GOR ALSO LACKS THE BASIC
MEANS OF GOVERNANCE -- PERSONNEL, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND
SUPPORT. A/S MOOSE SUGGESTED THAT THESE PRESSING
ISSUES MAY BE ADDRESSED THROUGH INCREASED INTERNATIONAL
(UNAMIR AND NGO) ASSISTANCE; ADDITIONAL FUNDING,

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PARTICULARLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS; AND CONTINUED
U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON THE GOR TO HONOR ITS
COMMITMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

5. SECURITY PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY OUTSIDE RWANDA IN
EASTERN ZAIRE AND TANZANIA, ARE MORE INTRACTABLE AND
DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE, SAID MOOSE. FOR EXAMPLE,
AVAILABLE INFORMATION INDICATES THERE ARE UP TO 28,000

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9532
INFO RWANDA COLLECTIVE
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GENEVA FOR RMA

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREF, PREL, PHUM, EAID, MOPS, RW, FR
SUBJECT: A/S MOOSE DISCUSSION OF RWANDA AND OTHER
- REGIONAL ISSUES WITH QUAI OFFICIALS

MEMBERS OF THE FORMER RWANDA MILITARY -- TEMPORARILY
DEMORALIZED -- IN THE CAMPS IN GOMA AND BUKAVU. THEIR
PRESENCE IS AGGRAVATED BY THE CONTINUED ACTIVITY OF THE
MILITIAS IN THE CAMPS. THE GOVERNMENTS OF NEIGHBORING
STATES ARE WEAK AND SO FAR UNABLE TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS
SUCH AS DISARMING THE MILITIAS; TAKING RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THOSE ACCUSED OF MURDER AND DESTRUCTION IN RWANDA;
AND RESTORING THE REFUGEES TO PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH.
MOOSE ARGUED THAT THERE IS AT BEST A SMALL WINDOW OF
OPPORTUNITY IN WHICH TO ESTABLISH A REASONABLE BASE FOR
ADDRESSING THESE PROBLEMS; TO DO SO WILL TAKE A

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COLLECTIVE EFFORT.

RWANDA: INTERNAL ISSUES

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6. DE LA SABLIERE, WHO AGREED WITH MOOSE'S ASSESSMENT, RECALLED THAT FRENCH ACTION IN RWANDA HAD BEEN DRIVEN BY HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS. HE EXPRESSED GREAT PRIDE IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF "OPERATION TURQUOISE" AND FRANCE'S ABILITY TO DEPART WITH THE HUMANITARIAN ZONE AND ITS OPERATIONS STILL INTACT -- [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
HUMANITARIAN ISSUES

7. FRANCE, ACCORDING TO DE LA SABLIERE, REMAINS CONCERNED ABOUT THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN RWANDA AND [REDACTED]

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8. A/S MOOSE, WHO ACKNOWLEDGED U.S. PLANS TO WITHDRAW ITS PERSONNEL, EXPLAINED THAT THE U.S. ENTERED RWANDA INITIALLY BECAUSE IT ALONE HAD THE MEANS TO PROVIDE MASSIVE ASSISTANCE QUICKLY. NOW, AS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AGENCIES SUCH AS THE UNHCR ARE RETURNING AND ASSUMING THE WORK, THE U.S. CAN REDUCE ITS PRESENCE. NONETHELESS, THE U.S. CONTINUES LIFT ASSISTANCE TO UNAMIR AND TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN CONSTRUCTING NEW REFUGEE CAMPS. MOOSE ASSURED THE GOF THE U.S. WILL REMAIN SENSITIVE TO POTENTIAL PROBLEMS IN SOUTHERN BURUNDI AND ELSEWHERE THAT MIGHT DELAY U.S.

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WITHDRAWAL. HOWEVER, THE U.S. HAS NOT AND WILL NOT

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BECOME INVOLVED IN QUESTIONS OF SECURITY IN THE CAMPS.

NEED FOR GOR TO ENCOURAGE RECONCILIATION

9. DE LA SABLIERE CLAIMED FRANCE HAS "MANAGED ITS
RELATIONS WITH KIGALI WELL." HE MINIMIZED THE PROBLEMS

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[REDACTED]

11. MOOSE AGREED THAT THE GOR MUST CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS AT RECONCILIATION, BUT URGED THAT THE PROBLEMS FACING THE GOR SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED. HE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT FRANCE TOO MUST REPAIR ITS RELATIONS WITH THE GOR. THE DEPTH OF GOR SUSPICION OF FRENCH INTENTIONS CANNOT BE IGNORED; FAILURE TO BRIDGE THIS DIVIDE WILL AFFECT THE GOR'S RESPONSE TO WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ZAIRE, THE FRENCH PRESENCE IN GOMA, AND RELATIONS WITH OTHER STATES. THIS ATMOSPHERE OF MISTRUST MUST BE DISPELLED; FRANCE, HE URGED, SHOULD NOT WAIT FOR THE GOR TO MAKE THE FIRST STEP.

REFUGEE PROBLEM

12. DE LA SABLIERE AGREED WITH MOOSE'S ANALYSIS OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM AND ITS POTENTIAL FOR DESTABILIZING THE REGION. HE RECOUNTED THAT BOTH PRESIDENT MOBUTO AND PRIME MINISTER KENGO ARE PREOCCUPIED WITH THE REFUGEE PRESENCE IN ZAIRE AND ITS NEGATIVE IMPACT ON AREAS LIKE KIVU. HE NOTED THAT THE PROBLEM IS COMPOUNDED BY THE NEED TO DISARM THE REFUGEES ON THE BORDER WHO HAVE TO

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DATE ONLY BEEN RELIEVED OF THEIR HEAVY WEAPONS, NOT
THEIR LIGHT ARMS. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] MOOSE
AND DE LA SABLIERE DISCUSSED INCONCLUSIVELY MEANS BY
WHICH ZAIRE CAN BE ASSISTED IN MEETING SECURITY
REQUIREMENTS. FRANCE, WHICH HAS NOT DISCUSSED THE
ISSUE WITH ZAIRE, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] THAT SAID, FRANCE HAS TRIED TO
DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF DISARMING EXTREMISTS ON THE
ZAIRIAN BORDER, TELLING MOBUTU THAT IT IS IN ZAIRE'S
INTEREST TO HALT THIS MENACE TO STABILITY BOTH ON THE
BORDER AND IN THE REGION. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

15. THE QUAI CONFIRMED THAT FRANCE CONTINUES TO PROVIDE MILITARY TRAINING IN BURUNDI, WHERE A QUASI-PERMANENT FRENCH MISSION TRAINS BODYGUARDS FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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MOOSE NOTED THAT THE MILITARY, WITH WHICH FRANCE CLAIMS TO HAVE MAINTAINED GOOD RELATIONS, IS A
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KEY ELEMENT IN THE SUCCESSION QUESTION. HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO IMPRESS ON THE MILITARY THAT IT CANNOT TAKE SIDES IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS AND THAT EVEN ITS NEUTRALITY MIGHT NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO ENABLE A PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION TO OCCUR.

[REDACTED]

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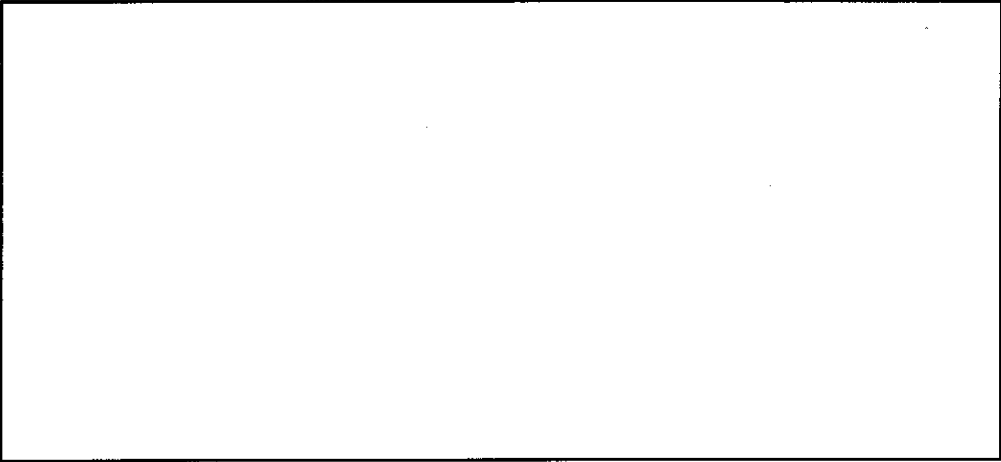

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18. IN AN ASIDE, DE LA SABLIERE ALSO NOTED THAT FRANCE HAS URGED MOBUTU TO RESPECT UN WISHES REGARDING ANGOLA AND NOTED THAT ZAIRE WILL HAVE TO RESPECT ANY UN SANCTIONS. QUAI SECRETARY GENERAL DUFOURCQ, WHO RAISED THE ISSUE TWICE, CAME AWAY WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT MOBUTU HAD HEARD AND UNDERSTOOD THE MESSAGE.



20. COMMENT BY A/S MOOSE: FRANCE IS CLEARLY NOT PREPARED TO STAY IN EASTERN ZAIRE OR TO SUPPORT/ASSIST ZAIRE IN ADDRESSING THE SECURITY PROBLEM GROWING OUT OF

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THE REFUGEE CRISIS. AS DE LA SABLIERE MENTIONED,
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FRANCE HAS MAINTAINED 450 MEN IN GOMA, BUT IS STILL
NEGOTIATING THEIR CONTINUED ROLE AND WANTS UN
ASSURANCES OF THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT BY UNAMIR.
NONETHELESS, MOOSE URGED THE GOF TO EXPAND ITS THINKING
ON RESOLVING THE SECURITY CRISIS IN EASTERN ZAIRE. HE
ALSO STRESSED THAT FRANCE MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO
ESTABLISH/REPAIR ITS RELATIONS WITH A SKEPTICAL GOR AND
THAT FAILURE TO DO SO WILL HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON

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	ADS-00)	/057W				

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THE GOR'S COMPORTMENT DOMESTICALLY AS WELL AS ON
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. DESPITE THESE DIFFERENCES,
THERE WAS AGREEMENT ABOUT HOW TO APPROACH RELATIONS
WITH ZAIRE AND THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN KENGO'S HAND
VIS-A-VIS MOBUTU.

21. THIS CABLE WAS DRAFTED AFTER A/S MOOSE DEPARTED
POST. HARRIMAN

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